

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

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Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

David J. Kenealy

Reg. No. 40,411

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MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP 1800 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-5869 (202) 467-7000

Customer No. 009629

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PTO Form 1449				Applicants: Wataru MATSUTANI, et al.						
Page 1 of 1				Filing Date:	February 23, 2000	Group:	2875			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
*Examiner Initial		Document Number Date		Name		Class Class Filing			Date	
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FOREIGN DOCUMENTS										
		Document Number	Date_	Country		Class	Sub Class Class	Transla Yes	tion No	
		JP-B- 61-31945	07/23/1986	· JA	APAN			x	140	
		JP-A-6-112261	04/22/1994	JAPAN (Abstract)				x		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)										
	16									
Examiner Date Considered $\frac{2}{8} = \frac{2}{10}$										
Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.										